

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission



## Views and News

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity, and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Arizona

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ACJC Executive Director

#### Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

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The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Views and News newsletter is published in electronic format. To subscribe or unsubscribe to Views and News, please e-mail ACJC Public Information Officer Mary Marshall at [mmarshall@azcjc.gov](mailto:mmarshall@azcjc.gov).

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## Class settlement pending in lawsuit over Zylon fiber used by Second Chance

The Arizona Attorney General's Office issued a notice to Arizona law enforcement agencies regarding a pending settlement negotiated with the Japanese-based company Toyobo, the manufacturer of Zylon, the fiber used in body armor produced by Second Chance Body Armor, Inc. The settlement was reached between Toyobo and a certified national class of consumers who purchased bullet proof vests from Second Chance. The settlement does not resolve claims against Second Chance Body Armor, Inc., which has been the target of numerous lawsuits. Second Chance is now in Chapter 11 bankruptcy and attempting to sell its assets.

The [Attorney General's notice](#) is available on ACJC's web site at [www.azcjc.gov](http://www.azcjc.gov). For more information about the settlement, visit [www.zylonvestclassaction.com](http://www.zylonvestclassaction.com) or call 1-877-567-2754.

## Arizona's crime rates remain the highest in nation

A new report from the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC) indicates that Arizona's crime rates continue to be the highest in the nation, a trend that began in 2000. According to an updated report by ACJC, [Arizona Crime Trends: A System Review](#), the state ranks number one in Crime Index, property crime and motor vehicle theft. Further, Arizona ranks in the top 10 nationally for murder, burglary and larceny-theft.

[See full story](#)

## U.S. Attorney's Office, ACJC announce PSN grants: \$680,000

The U.S. Attorney's Office, Arizona district, and the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission announced the award of \$680,000 in Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) grants to target gun crime. PSN is a federally funded program that enables federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to work collaboratively to combat gun crime. ACJC's web site includes a [summary of projects](#) as well as the [grant awards announcement](#).

## Gangs videoconference

OJJDP will air a free online videoconference on youth gangs on Aug. 11 at 1:30 p.m. EDT. For more information, visit [www.trc.eku.edu/jj](http://www.trc.eku.edu/jj).

## MDA Lock-up: Bail out Director Blackburn!



In an effort to support a great cause, ACJC's Executive Director John Blackburn Jr. will get "locked up" on behalf of the Muscular

Dystrophy Association (MDA) Lock-up at noon on Aug. 11 at Jackson's on Third in downtown Phoenix. Bail is set at \$3,000; funds raised for Director Blackburn's "bail" will benefit MDA. For more information, please visit [www.mdalockup.org/bailpage.aspx?j=37479](http://www.mdalockup.org/bailpage.aspx?j=37479).

## Police recruits can use GI benefits at training academies

The Arizona Department of Veterans Services (ADVS) works with several law enforcement training academies and police departments to allow veterans who are recruits at law enforcement training academies to draw on their GI Bill educational benefits. After finishing the academy, recruits can draw pay from the GI Bill's On-the-Job Training program as they complete field training officer and civil patrol training. ADVS is the state approving agency charged with approving educational and on-the-job training programs for veterans. For more information, please contact ADVS at (602) 255-5395; e-mail [education@azdvs.gov](mailto:education@azdvs.gov) or [www.azdvs.gov](http://www.azdvs.gov).